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27 April 66

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ISINGLASS Briefing of Mr. John E. Kirk, DDR&E

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1. On 26 April 1966 [redacted] (D/TECH/OSA) and [redacted] (SS/OSA) briefed Mr. Kirk on ISINGLASS in his office. General Giller, who had requested the briefing, also attended. Mr. Kirk is Assistant Director, DDR&E, for Space Technology and works for Dr. Fink.

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2. In general, Mr. Kirk seemed very favorably impressed by the ISINGLASS idea and system and stated that it had several important advantages over the single pass orbital system with maneuverable re-entry which he has been pushing. He did express considerable doubt that the Pratt & Whitney engine could be man rated within the time period, 31 months, that we need to hold to the four year production schedule. He felt that Pratt & Whitney would probably run into problems, particularly thermal problems in the main chamber, and that there was good reason for the cautious USAF engine program at Pratt & Whitney.

3. Finally, he said he would discuss the project with Dr. Fink and perhaps arrange for both of them to be more extensively briefed by McDonnell Aircraft Corporation.

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[redacted]
Advanced Projects Division
(Special Activities)

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

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APD/OSA/ [redacted] (27 Apr 66)

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